Rail Over-Bridges in Bangalore

3931. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken up construction of one over-bridge near ITC factory and of the other one at Lingarajapuram-Hennur Road near Charles School, Bangalore;

(b) if so, the estimated cost of the above works; and

(c) by when the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Sir, both the road over bridges were sanctioned in Railway Budget of 1999-2000.

(b) Estimated cost of Road Over Bridge near ITC Factory is Rs. 11.86 crores (Railway's share Rs. 5.96 crores, Bangalore Mahanagara Palike's share Rs. 5.89 crores) and the estimated cost of road over bridge at Lingaragapuram-Hennur Road is Rs. 10.75 crores. (Railway's share Rs. 5.38 crores, Bangalore Mahanagara Palike's share Rs. 5.37 crores).

(c) Bangalore Mahanagara Palike has entrusted construction of approaches also to Railway for which they have yet to deposit their share of cost. Construction of the bridges will be taken up after Bangalore Mahanagara Palike deposits its share of cost.

Extension of Rail Lines

†3932. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for extension of rail lines during Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether it is a fact that it is not possible to achieve that target by the end of that Plan period;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the amount spent on this work so far?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE iN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) The target originally fixed for new lines for the 9th plan was 819 Km.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Constraint of resources has been the major cause. Delay in land acquisition and law and order problems etc. have also contributed to the shortfall.

(d) Approximately Rs. 1867.03 crore has so far been spent during 9th Plan upto Feb. 2001.

Transfer of Technology for Golden Rice

3933. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Swiss scientists have offered 'Golden Rice' to India;

(b) if so, the details of the 'Golden Rice'; and

(c) by when the transfer of technology is going to take place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A proposal for Joint Research on Golden Rice under the second phase of Indo-Swiss Collaboration in Biotechnology is under consideration. The Indian Institutions such as Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi; University of Delhi South Campus, New Delhi; Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore; and Directorate of Rice Research, Hyderabad will be associated with the proposed research activity with in the framework of National Biosafety Guidelines. The Department of Biotechnology and Indian Council for Agricultural Research are jointly working towards finalisation of the proposal. The results leading to Pro-